

G-IV-C-179

Shallmar Survey District
Shallmar
Multiple, private

1917- Present

The Shallmar Survey District includes a group of forty-five buildings within the town of Shallmar, a coal company town built between 1918 and the late 1920s on the North Branch of the Potomac River. These buildings stand on the western side of Shallmar Road which runs in a southwesterly direction between North Hill Road and Dodson. ~~The district includes the structures originally built in Shallmar Road and Dodson.~~ The district includes the structures originally built in Shallmar by the Wolf Den Mining Company (later the Shallmar Mine Company) to house its employees as well as the remains of buildings connected with the operation of the Wolf Den Mine. With only a few exceptions the houses face on both Shallmar Road.

The Shallmar Survey District is significant as an example of a company town in which houses were provided by the coal mining company for the exclusive use of its employees. Both in its conception and design Shallmar totally reflected the intentions of the parent company and its very existence therefore was inextricably linked to the fortunes of the Shallmar Mining Company.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Shallmar Survey District

and/or common

2. Location

street & number _____ not for publication _____

city, town Shallmar _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district Sixth

state Maryland _____ county Garrett

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Multiple Ownership

street & number _____ telephone no.: _____

city, town _____ state and zip code _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Garrett County Court House _____ liber _____

street & number _____ folio _____

city, town Oakland _____ state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title _____

date _____ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local ☐

depository for survey records _____

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Survey No. 6-IV-C-179

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Shallmar Survey District includes a group of forty-five buildings within the town of Shallmar, a coal company town built between 1918 and the late 1920s on the North Branch of the Potomac River. These buildings stand on the western side of Shallmar Road which runs in a southwesterly direction between North Hill Road and Dodson. The district includes the structures originally built in Shallmar by the Wolf Den Mining Company (later the Shallmar Mine Company) to house its employees as well as the remains of buildings connected with the operation of the Wolf Den Mine. With only a few exceptions the houses face on both Shallmar Road and the river, which runs parallel to the road and forms the town's eastern boundary. An abandoned stretch of the Wolf Den Branch of the Western Maryland Railroad running parallel to Shallmar Road forms the district's western boundary.

Although Shallmar was originally laid out with several short streets running perpendicular to Shallmar Road, few of the houses which once occupied sites on these sheets remain (Houses #5, 14, 15, 16, 21 and 26-29 on the accompanying map). Along Shallmar Road all of the buildings have a uniform setback of ten feet with the exception of house #12, a large house built for an official of the coal company, which has a more extensive front yard.

There are four distinct types of houses in Shallmar. Most typical is the two story, three bay wide frame house of stud construction with central door and front porch. Houses 6-11, 23-25, and 33-44 conform to this type, and the stretch of houses along Shallmar Road between 33-44 present a particular uniform appearance.

Distinguishing characteristics of this type include the front porch supported by three turned posts, a cross gable set in the center of the long side of the gable roof, a jig sawn round ventilator in the middle of this cross gable (virtually the only decorative touch to these houses), a simple cornice above each window and door and a central chimney with corbelled cap. House #35 retains an original front door with five raised horizontal panels.

Most of these houses have been enlarged with rear additions, varying in depth between one and four bays. Many, including #34, 36, 39, 41, 42 and 43 have an additional cinderblock chimney to one side of the house, although #44 has a second brick chimney which appears contemporary with the rest of the house. Otherwise, the majority of these houses present a generally uniform and unaltered appearance.

Houses #17-19 and #22 are all that remain of a considerable number of duplex houses which once stood in Shallmar. Each is two stories tall and four bays wide with German siding and a one story porch supported by turned posts. Two doors are placed close together in the middle of the gable end facade. A decorative ventilator similar to that which appears on other houses in Shallmar is placed in the center of the gable. Each side elevation has between eight and ten windows with two-over-two sashes. The porch on #19 has an unusual slat balustrade, but otherwise these duplexes appear quite similar. Most have acquired various additions to the rear.

Houses 26-29 were built on a hill which rises near the point where Shallmar

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Shallmar Survey District is significant as an example of a company town in which houses were provided by the coal mining company for the exclusive use of its employees. Both in its conception and design Shallmar totally reflected the intentions of the parent company and its very existence therefore was inextricably linked to the fortunes of the Shallmar Mining Company.

The Wolf Den Mining Company (later renamed Shallmar Mining Co.) first began mining operations in this area in July of 1917. Two different but proximate mines in the Lower Kittaning Seam were worked and during its first year of operation a total of forty men produced 32,604 tons of coal. The mine proved to be unusually productive and employment figures jumped to fifty-six in 1919 and to one hundred and thirty by 1923.

By that time both the company and its town had been renamed Shallmar, after the company's president W. S. Marshall. The large increase in the company payroll during this period necessitated a parallel expansion in the number of new houses built in the community. A map of Shallmar prepared by the mining company in 1923 showed a total of ninety buildings in the town, an increase of almost forty houses in only four years.

Most other communities in Garrett and Allegany counties, although heavily dependent on the coal and rail industries for economic livelihood, were usually not as firmly tied to one particular company as was Shallmar. In this respect it shared many features of Kempton which, like Shallmar, sprang up almost overnight to serve the needs of its parent company. The establishment of a company town by a firm such as the Shallmar Mining Company was typical of the paternalistic attitude of much of corporate America in the 1920s and in many cases was undertaken to forestall the rise of militant unionism. Well-built and comfortable houses were "provided" to the miners, who were forced to lease their homes, with seldom an opportunity to buy them outright. The philosophy behind this attention paid to worker housing by the company was summed up by its superintendent, H. A. Marshall, who wrote that, "It (Shallmar Mine Company) might have clipped a few corners in the housing of its men, but from principle it has continuously given them considerate treatment, which pays in the long run."

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PS-2746

Road makes a slight bend. House #26 is the most typical of these houses and has undergone the least alteration. It is a one story, four bay frame building with a recessed porch and entry. At the rear of the three bay deep house is a small shed roofed porch. House #28 is raised on high foundations and has a side porch but is otherwise similar in appearance to both #26 and 27. House #29 is a modern non-contributing house.

Facing the athletic field are three houses (#14-16) of a type once quite numerous in Shallmar. Each is 1½ stories with a gable end entrance. A shed roof porch supported by turned posts extends along the front of the house, the one at #15 being recently enclosed. All three are three bays deep with a small porch at the rear. These houses are considerably smaller in scale than the single family houses along Shallmar road.

The house at #12, a late Queen Anne style building, is the largest in Shallmar, and was built to house the Superintendant. This large, two-and-one-half story, three bay wide frame house has an off-center front door reached by wide steps. The most outstanding feature of this house is the one story wrap-around porch which extends from the front part way around the north side of the house. A row of turned balusters runs between the square panelled Doric columns which support the porch. A hipped dormer with triple windows sits on both the north and east sides of the roof. Two large shed-garages stand twenty feet to the north of the house.

The different house types in Shallmar suggest a relationship between the size of a house and its occupant's position with the Shallmar Mining Company. Kempton, a coal mining town built by the Davis Coal & Coke Company during the 1910s on the Potomac River southwest of Shallmar bears many similarities to Shallmar. Along its main street were the houses of the company officials and skilled workers, all with front yards and cement sidewalks. The unskilled and foreign workders, on the other hand, lived in cheaper houses on roads with wooden sidewalks.

The sole commercial building in Shallmar is the former company store, now privately owned. It is a one-and-one-half story building constructed of local cut stone. Two entrances are provided on the front, one to the store proper, the other to the former pay office. The store entrance is framed by simple iron columns and all of the windows have iron bars. Above each of the windows and doors is a transom; those above the two widest windows are divided into four panes. A heavy wooden cornice, runs along the top of the transoms. It is painted green with the words "Vera's Market" painted white. Only a few letters of the words "Shallmar Coal Co." are still visible.

Above the cornice is the date 1920 in raised numerals. A slightly projecting ledge of stone serves as a cornice for the facade.

The side elevations are three bays deep, with each bay slightly smaller than the one preceding it, and are windowless.

7.2 Description (Continued)

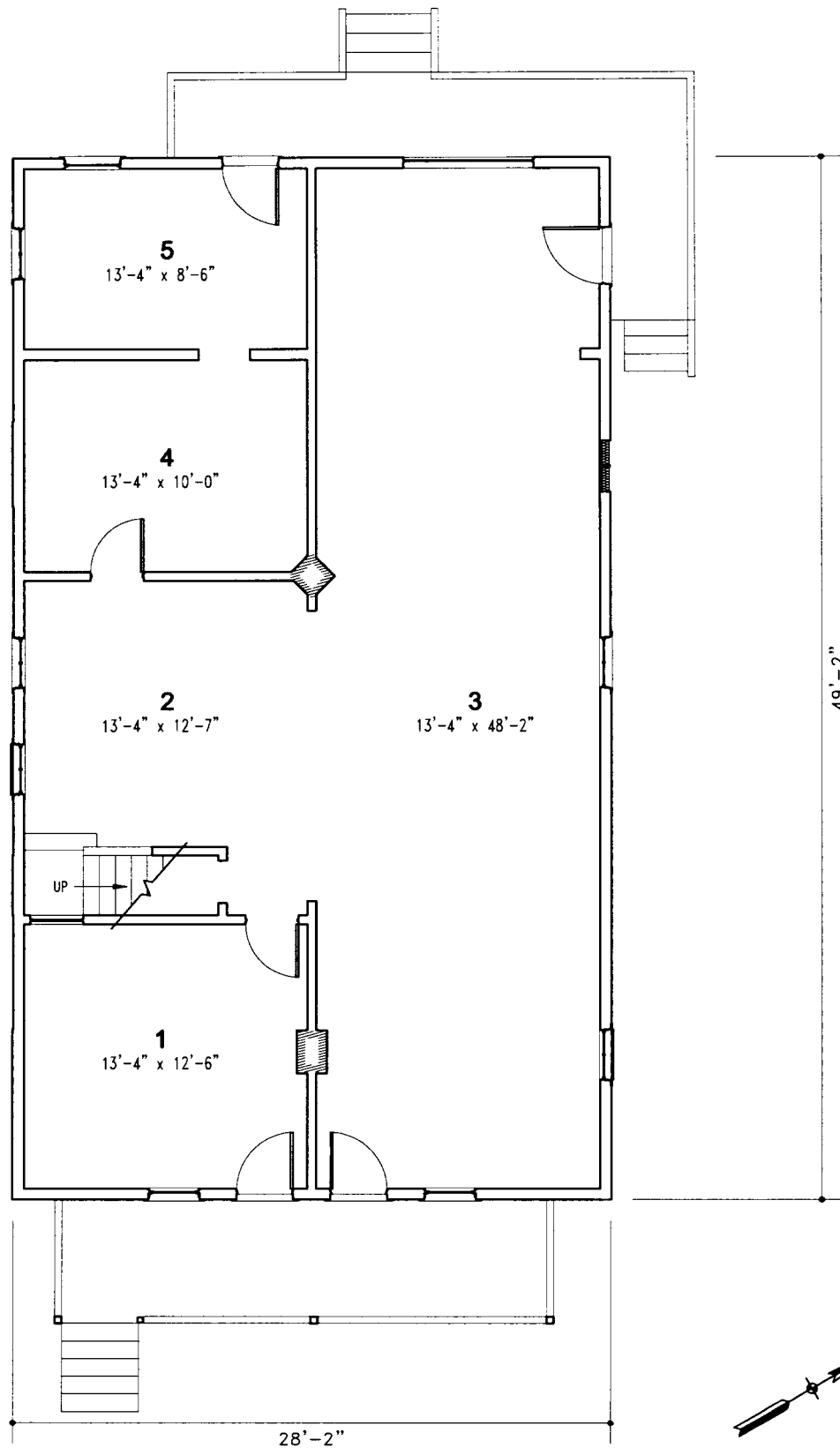
Survey No. G-IV-C-179

Much of the interior is intact including floor-to-ceiling wooden shelves on both side walls, a carved wooden cornice running the length of the building and a well-preserved pressed tin ceiling. In the rear is a vault, once used for storing ice. Separate space was also provided for a post office and a pay office.

Very little physical evidence of mining operations by the Shallmar Mining Company remain in this area. In addition to the mine openings these included a power generating house, saw mill, offices, tipples, smith shops and several watchmen's posts. The power house was particularly noteworthy and was built of cut stone, with large thermal windows on both the facade and eastern elevation.

Fortunately for Shallmar, the high output which the coal mine maintained during the 1920s and 1930s ensured an uninterrupted level of prosperity for the community. Old photographs from this period show a neat and well cared for village, with picket fences, arbors and neat cairns of whitewashed stones piled in front of the driveways. The town was provided with a school, athletic field and store, as well as a post-office.

The coal tonnage began to decline in the 1930s and by 1959, the BB&U Coal Company, successor to Shallmar, mined only 9,236 tons with twelve employees. Most of the buildings connected with the mining operations were later destroyed as was the school. The houses were sold off and often destroyed by their later owners, so that only thirty-seven of the original houses built in the 1920s still stand. Those that remain are for the most part less carefully maintained than they were during Shallmar's hey-day.



URS Greiner Woodward Clyde Federal Services
Engineering & sciences applied to the earth and its environment

CLIENT: FEMA HMGP
LOCATION: Shallmar Historic District, Maryland (Survey# G-IV-C-179)

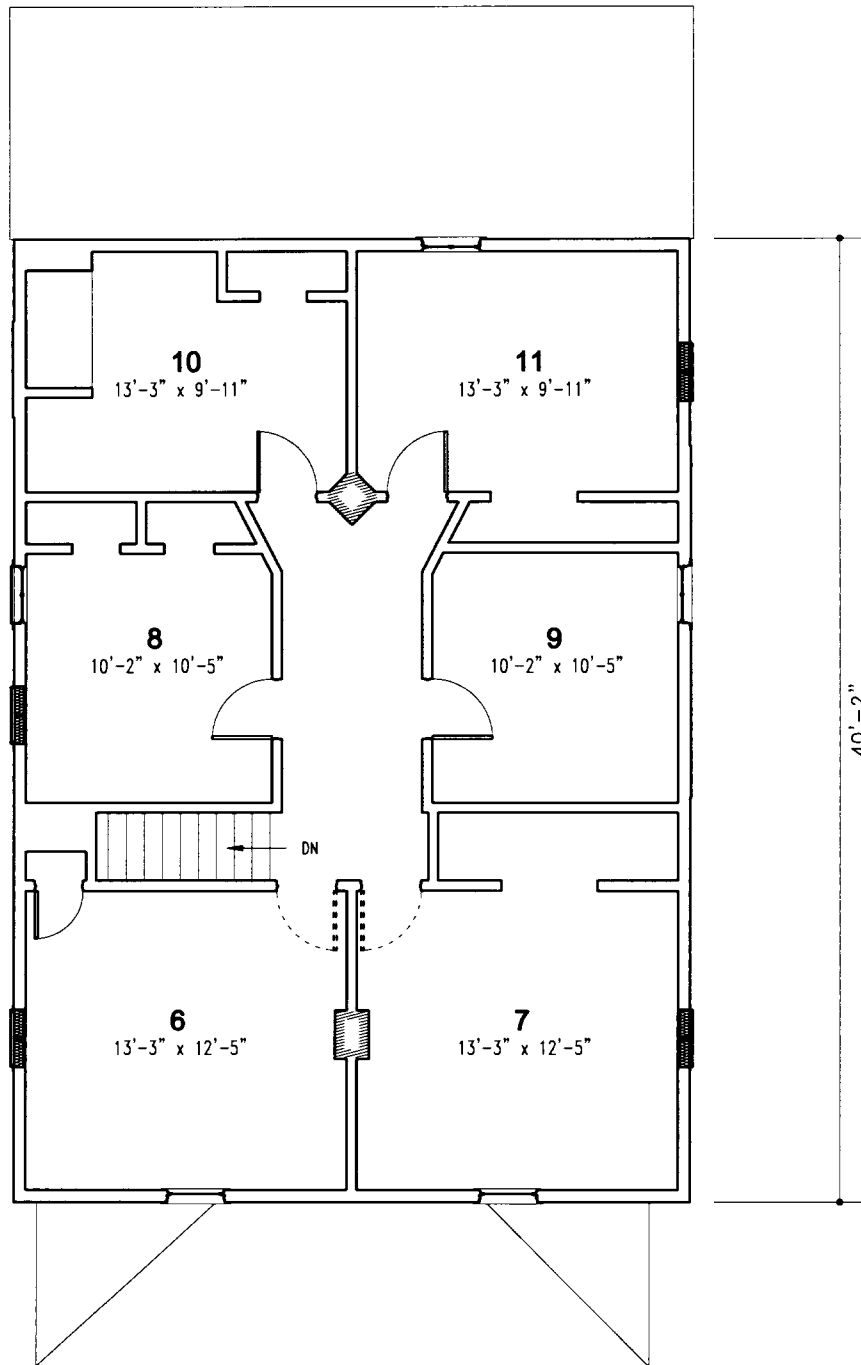
PROJECT No.
89FR954349

DATE: 10/25/99
CHK'D. C.L.A.

First Floor Plan
1062 Shallmar Road

FIGURE: 1

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



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CLIENT: FEMA HMGP
LOCATION: Shallmar Historic District, Maryland (Survey# G-IV-C-179)

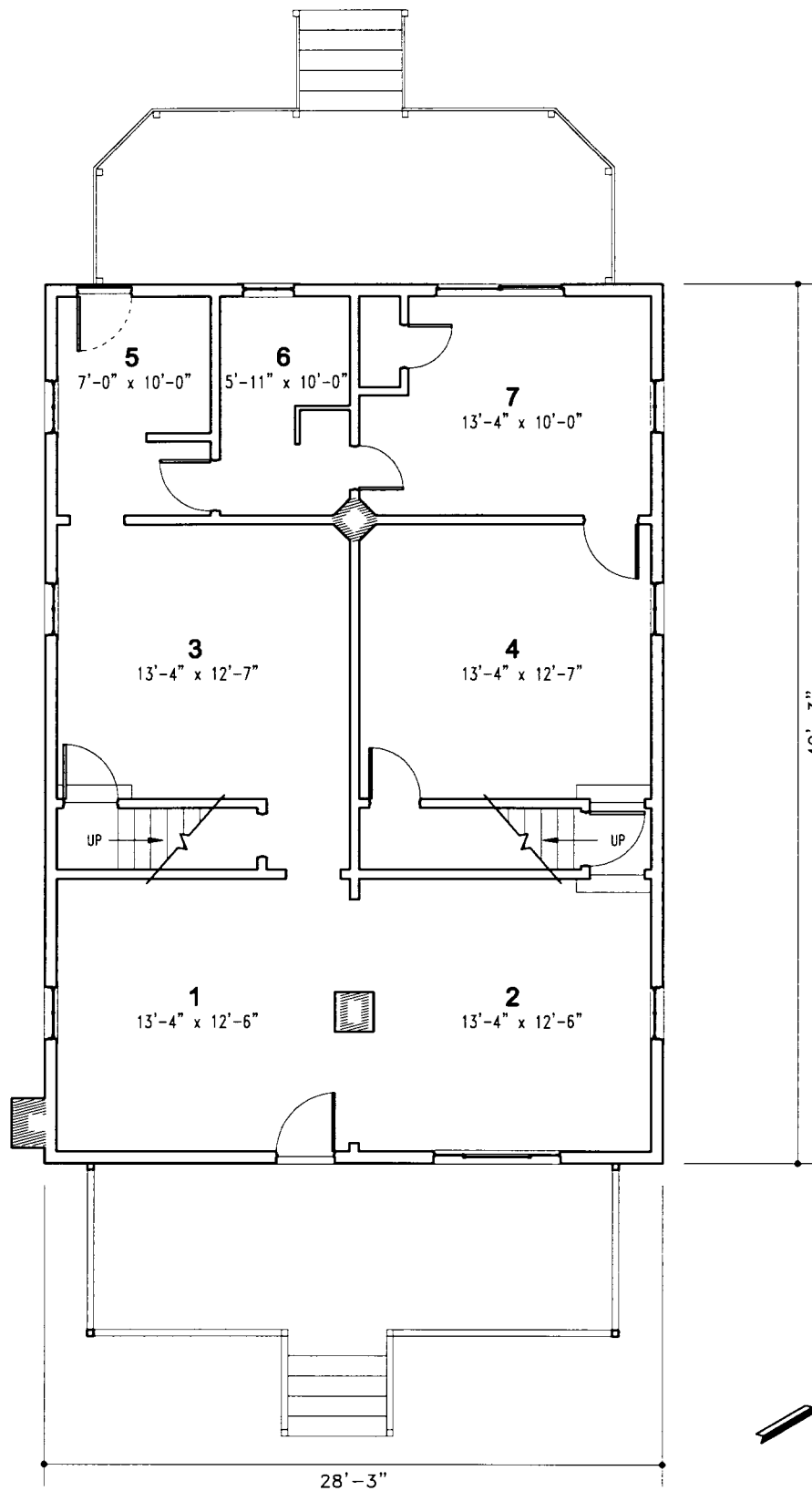
PROJECT No.
89FR954349

DATE: 10/25/99
CHK'D. C.L.A.

Second Floor Plan
1062 Shallmar Road

FIGURE: 2

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



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Engineering & sciences applied to the earth and its environment

CLIENT: FEMA HMGP
LOCATION: Shallmar Historic District, Maryland (Survey# G-IV-C-179)

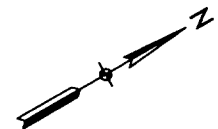
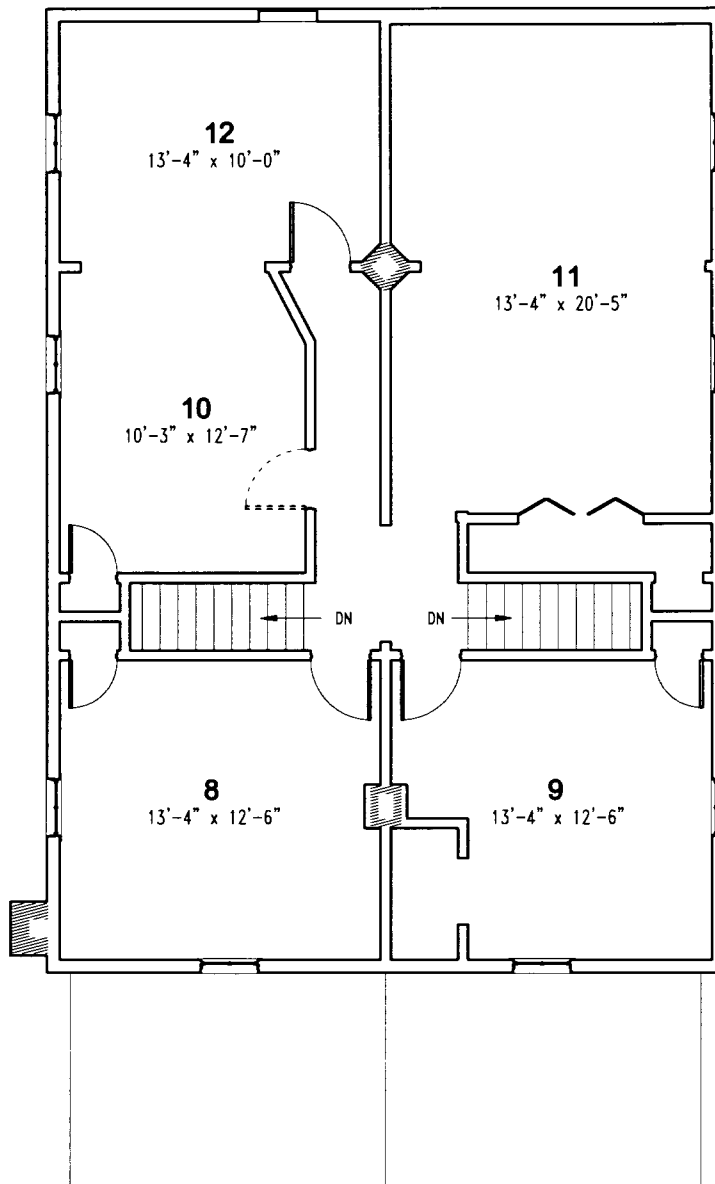
PROJECT No.
89FR954349

DATE: 10/25/99
CHK'D. C.L.A.

First Floor Plan
1108 Shallmar Road

FIGURE: 1

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



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CLIENT: FEMA HMGP
LOCATION: Shallmar Historic District, Maryland (Survey# G-IV-C-179)

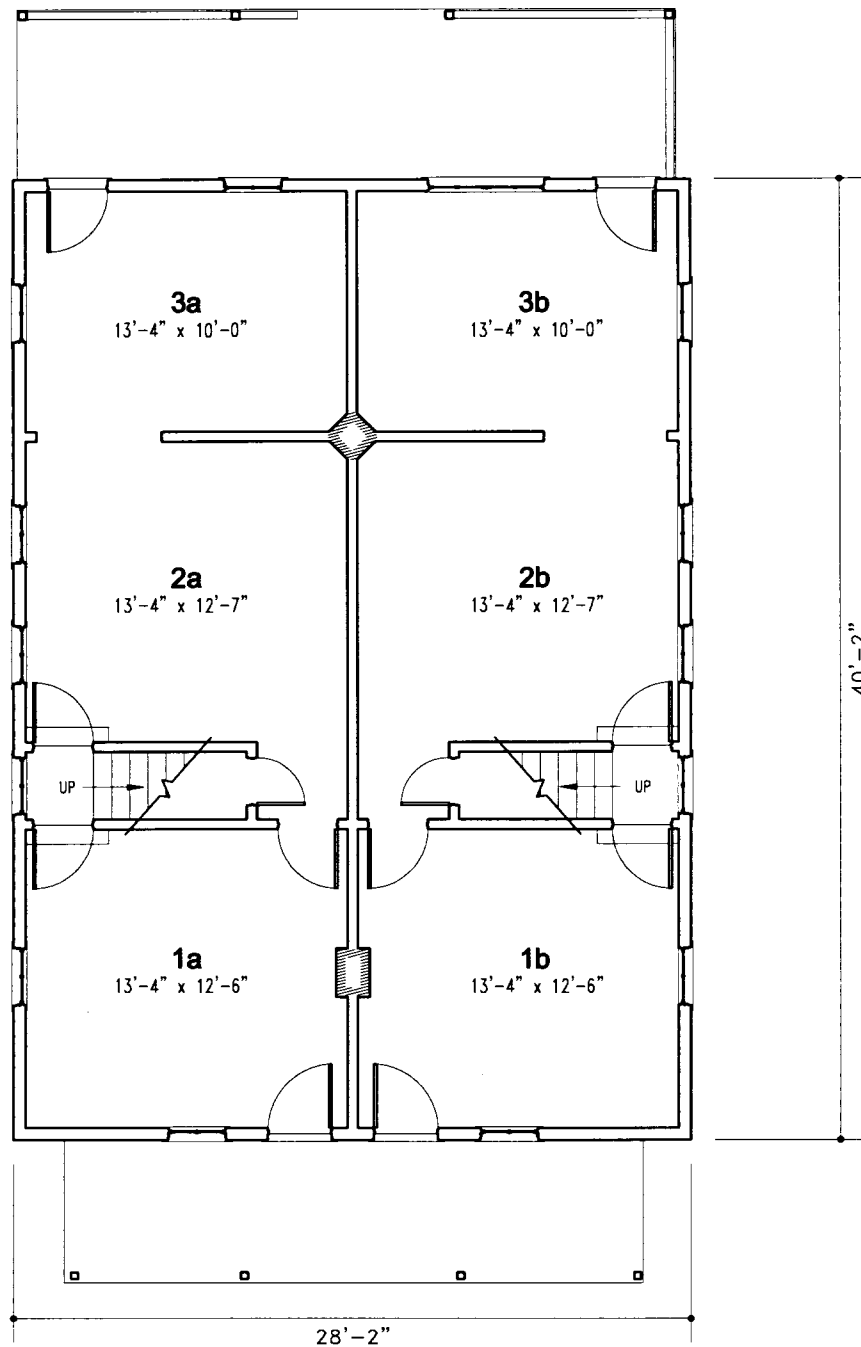
PROJECT No.
89FR954349

DATE: 10/25/99
CHK'D. C.L.A.

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

Second Floor Plan
1108 Shallmar Road

FIGURE: 2



URS Greiner Woodward Clyde Federal Services
Engineering & sciences applied to the earth and its environment

CLIENT: FEMA HMGP
LOCATION: Shallmar Historic District, Maryland (Survey# G-IV-C-179)

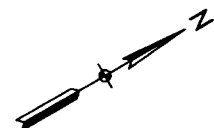
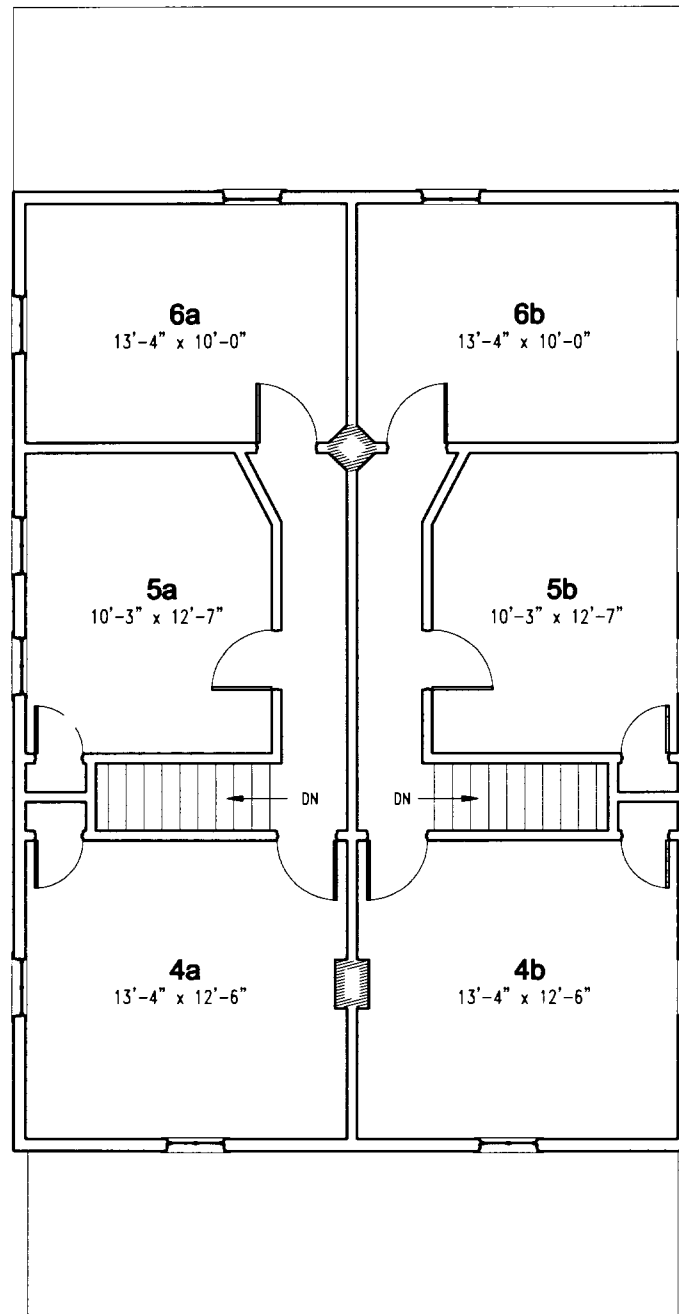
PROJECT No.
89FR954349

DATE: 10/25/99
CHK'D. C.L.A.

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

First Floor Plan
1116 Shallmar Road

FIGURE: 1



URS Greiner Woodward Clyde Federal Services

Engineering & sciences applied to the earth and its environment

CLIENT: FEMA HMGP

LOCATION: Shallmar Historic District, Maryland (Survey# G-IV-C-179)

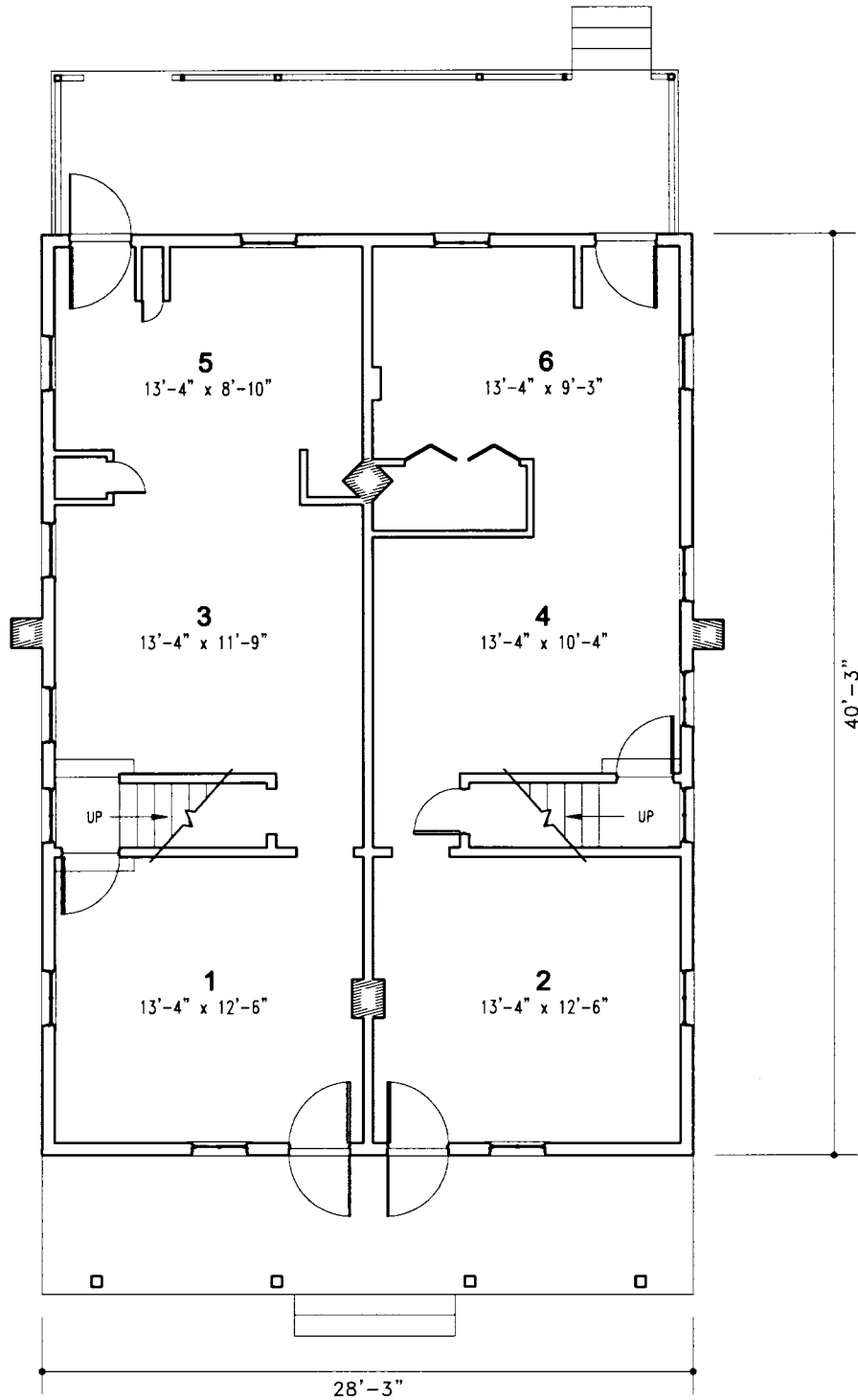
PROJECT No.
89FR954349

DATE: 10/25/99
CHK'D. C.L.A.

Second Floor Plan
1116 Shallmar Road

FIGURE: 2

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



URS Greiner Woodward Clyde Federal Services

Engineering & sciences applied to the earth and its environment

CLIENT: FEMA HMGP

LOCATION: Shallmar Historic District, Maryland (Survey# G-IV-C-179)

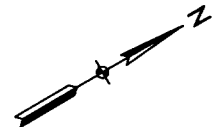
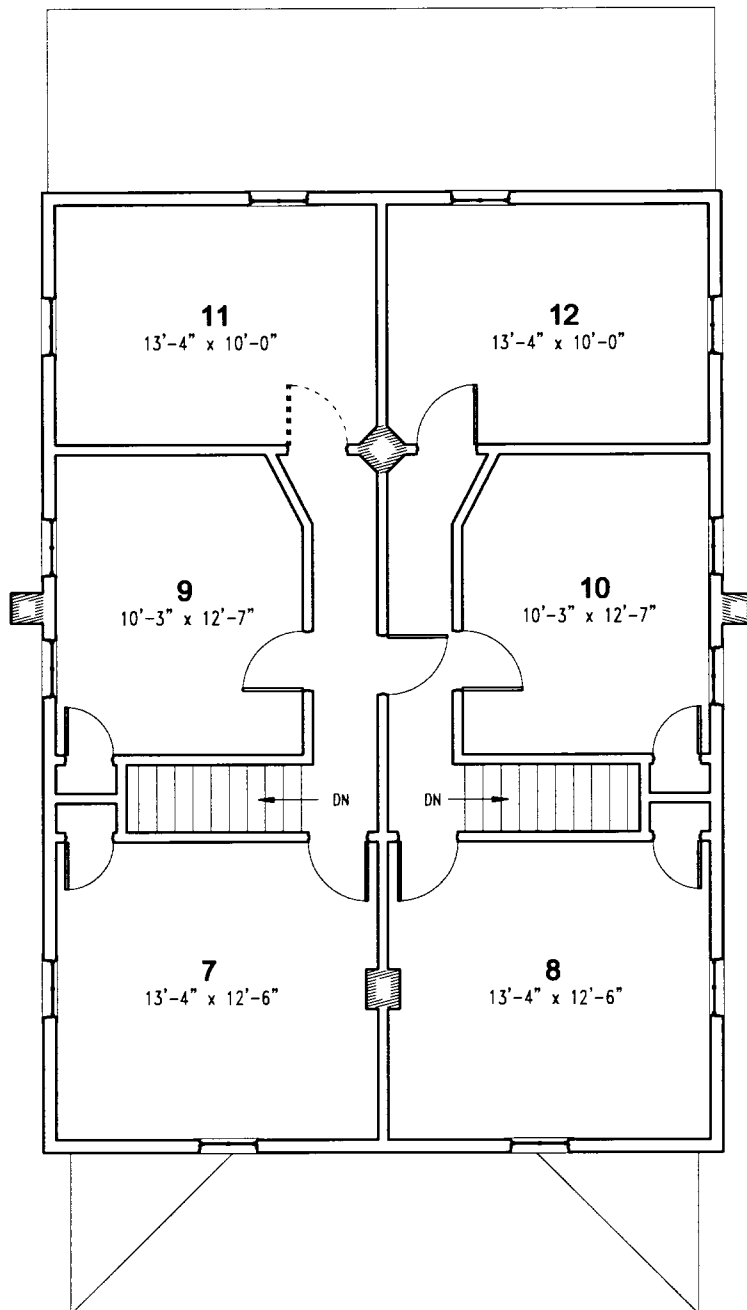
PROJECT No.
89FR954349

DATE: 10/25/99
CHK'D. C.L.A.

First Floor Plan
1118 Shallmar Road

FIGURE: 1

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



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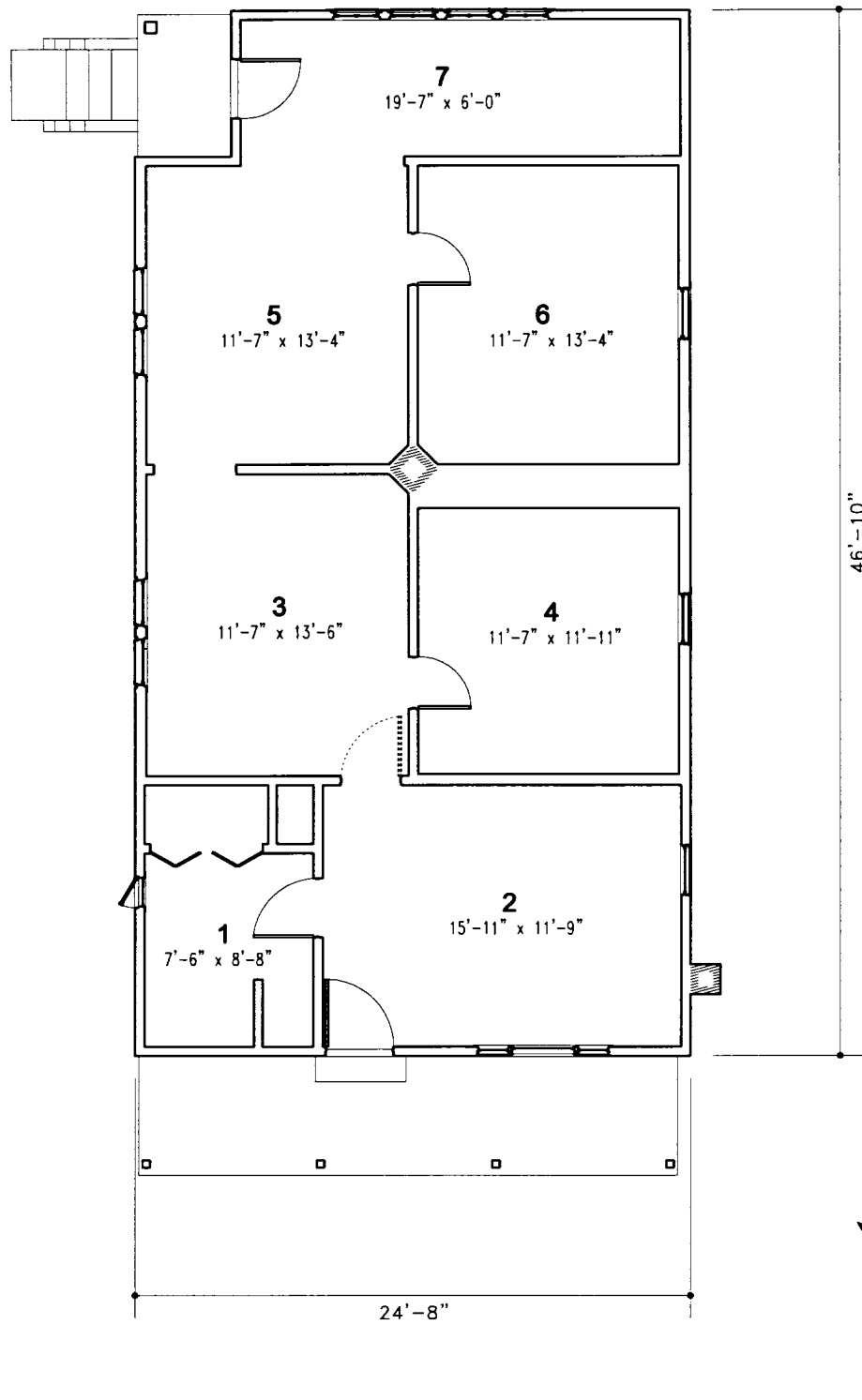
CLIENT: FEMA HMGP
LOCATION: Shallmar Historic District, Maryland (Survey# G-IV-C-179)

PROJECT No. 89FR954349
DATE: 10/25/99
CHK'D. C.L.A.

Second Floor Plan
1118 Shallmar Road

FIGURE: 2

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



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CLIENT: FEMA HMGP

LOCATION: Shallmar Historic District, Maryland (Survey# G-IV-C-179)

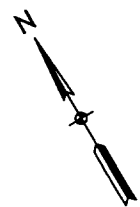
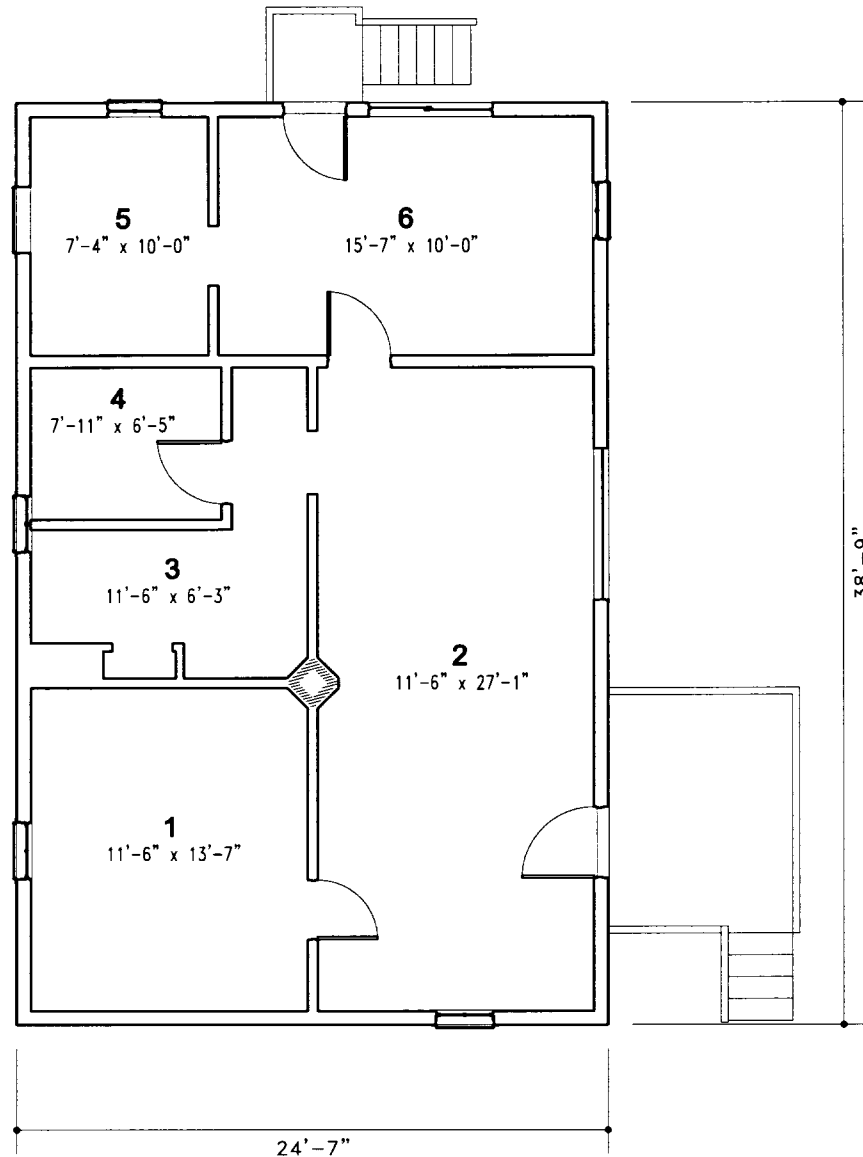
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89FR954349

DATE: 10/25/99
CHK'D. C.L.A.

First Floor Plan
24 Ballfield Lane

FIGURE: 1

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



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Engineering & sciences applied to the earth and its environment

CLIENT: FEMA HMGP
LOCATION: Shallmar Historic District, Maryland (Survey# G-IV-C-179)

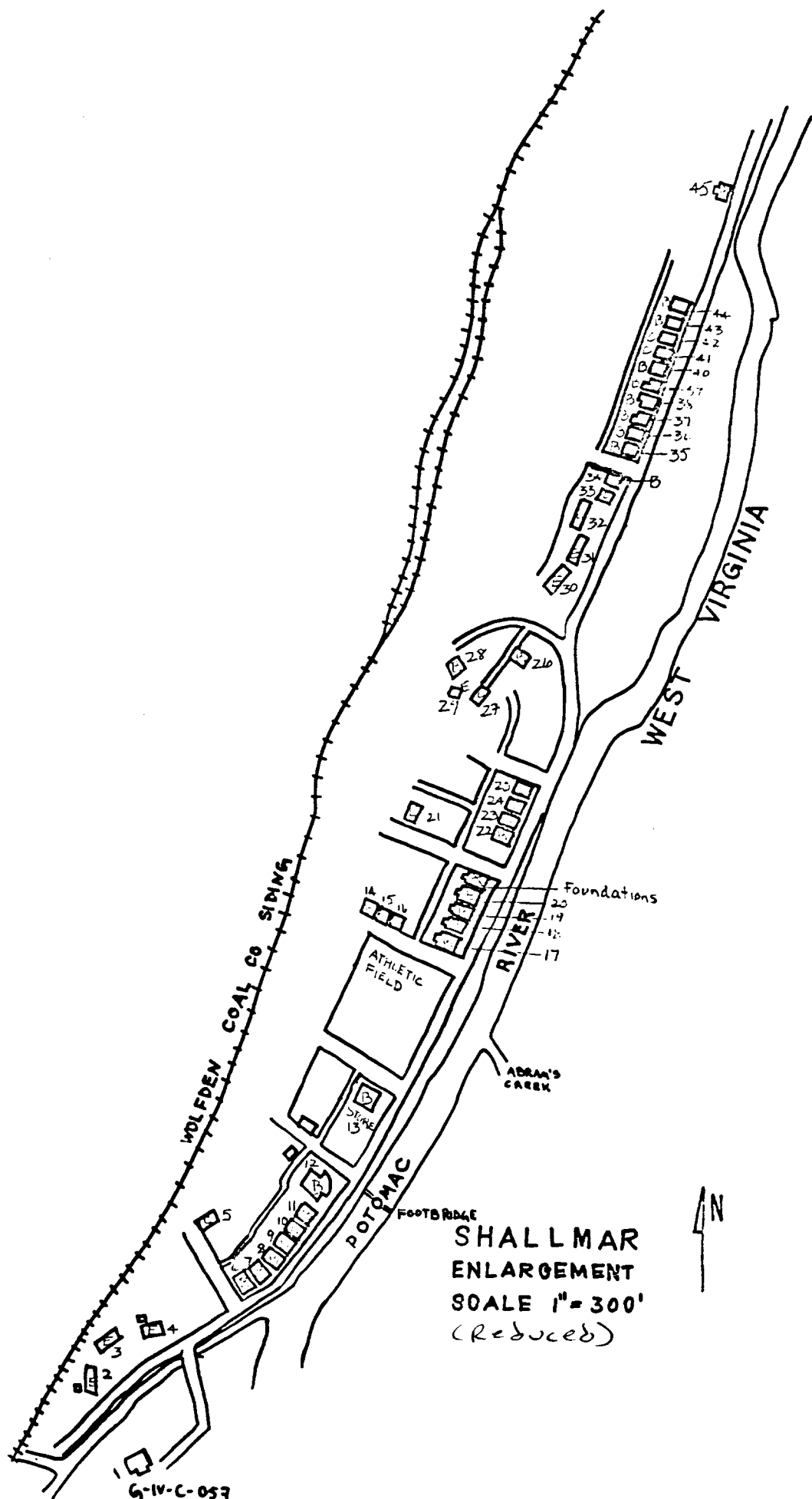
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CHK'D. C.L.A.

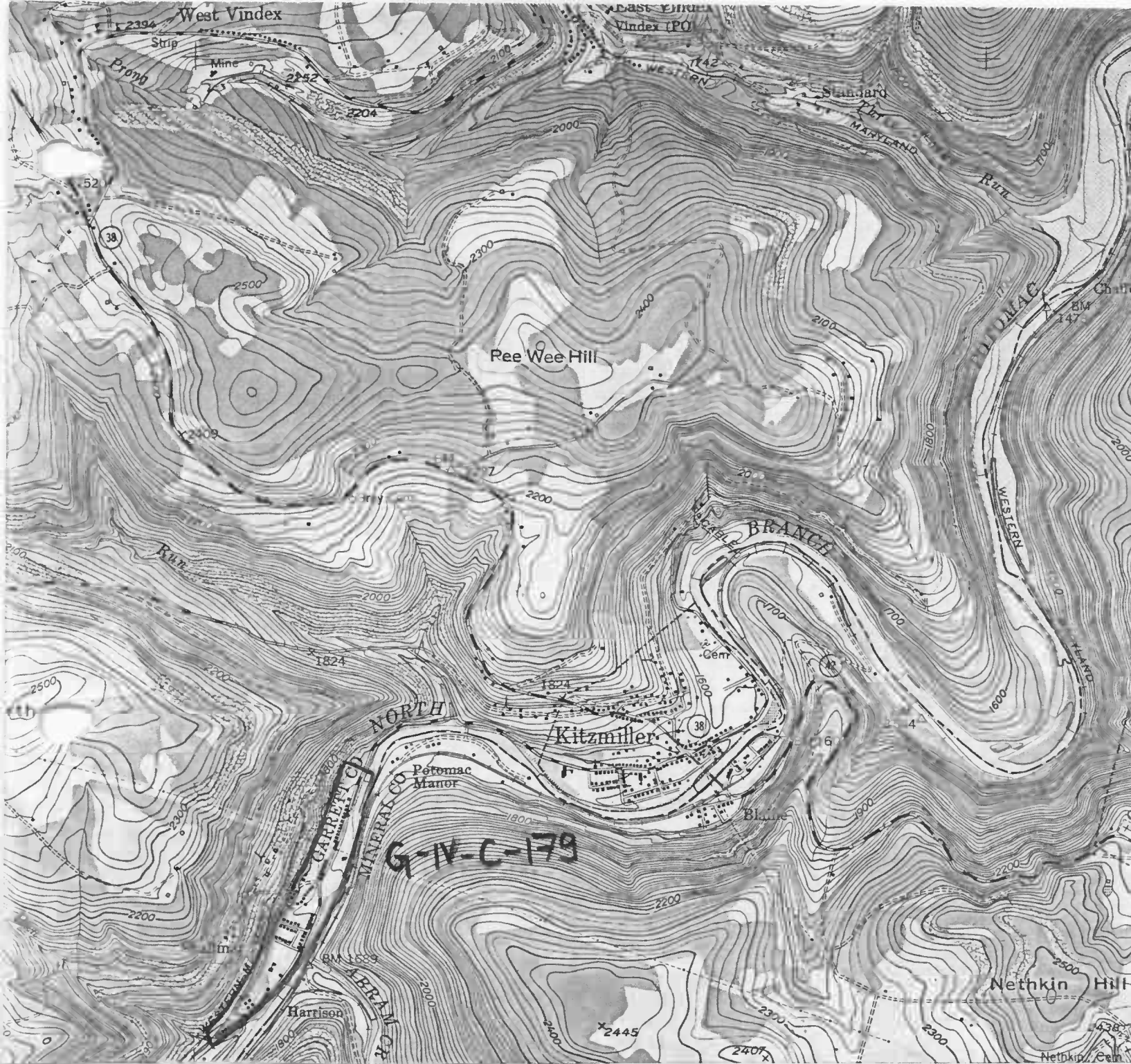
First Floor Plan
42 Ballfield Lane

FIGURE: 1

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



SHALLMAR
ENLARGEMENT
SCALE 1" = 300'
(Reduced)



Kitzmiller MD-W.VA.
USGA 7.5 minute series
Scale 1:24,000
1948; photo revised 1974

G-IV-C-179
Shallmar Survey
District

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

974 NORTH
CENTRAL SHEET

MARYLAND

QUADRANGLE



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland
Shallmar Road
North from house #2
G. Henry 1/83



G-1V-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland
Shallmar Road
North From House #37
G. Henry 1/83



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland
Shallmar Road
North from house #33
G. Henry 1/83



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland
Shallmar Road
looking north from #34
G. Henry 1/83



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland

House #18

East elevation

G. Henry 1/83



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland

House #9

East facade

G. Henry 1/83



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland
House #18
NE Corner
G. Henry 1/83



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland

House #35

East facade

G. Henry 1/83



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland
Houses #16, 15, 14
looking west
G. Henry 1/83



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland

Houses #17, 18, 19

looking NW

G. Henry 1/ 83



G-IV-C-179

~~G.V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District

Garrett County, Maryland

House #12

Oblique NE view

G. Henry 1/83



GIV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland

House #12

North elevation

G. Henry 1/83



G-1V-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District

Garrett County, Maryland

House #45

Oblique view

G. Henry 1/83



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District

Garrett County, Maryland

House #45

East facade

G. Henry 1/83



G-IV- C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District

Garrett County, Maryland

View of mountain west of Shallmar

G. Henry 1/83



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland
Building #13
NE corner
G. Henry 1/83

FIGURE 173.



G-V-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland
House #26
East facade
G. Henry 1/83



G-IV-C-179

~~G-V-C-177~~

Shallmar Survey District
Garrett County, Maryland
House #17
South facade
G. Henry 1/83